KUPPERBERG·HOBERG·STARR

POWER GIRL™

FOUR ISSUE MINI-SERIES

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SEPT 88

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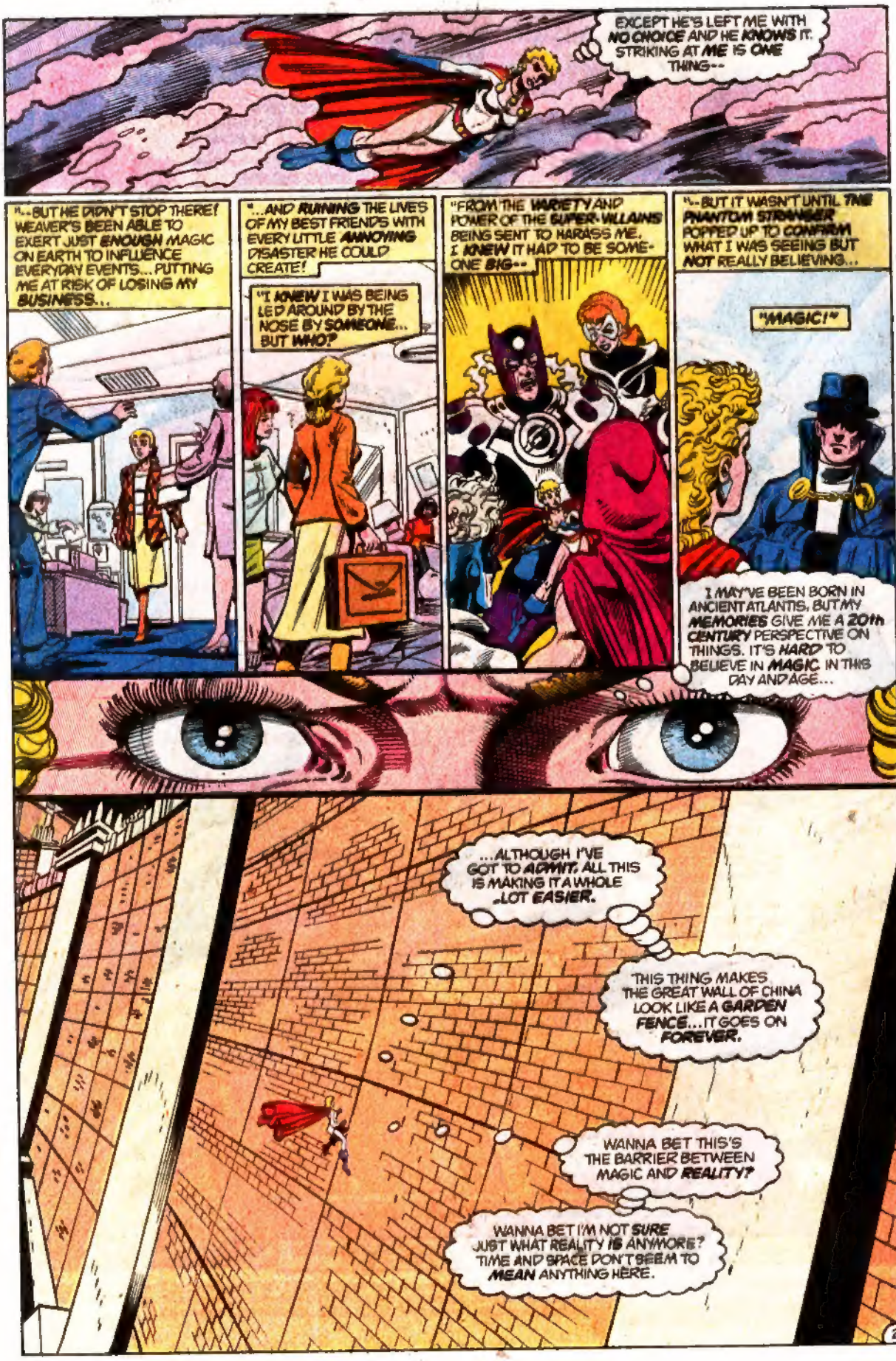
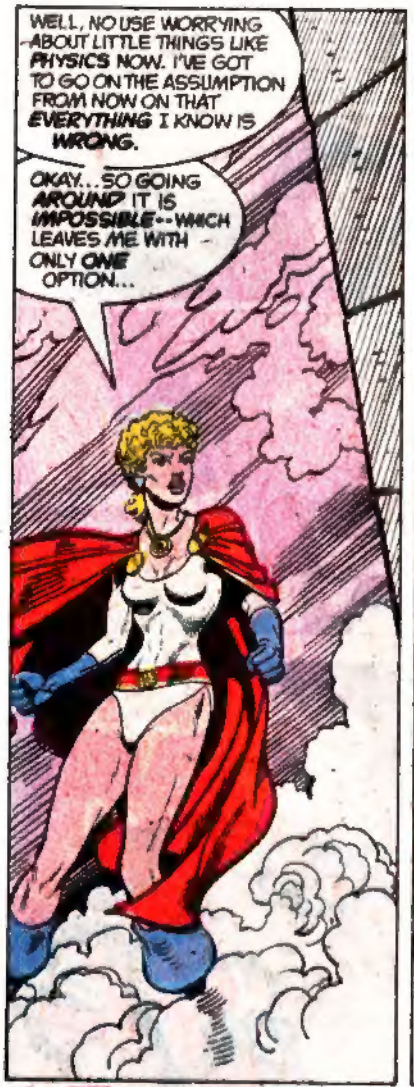
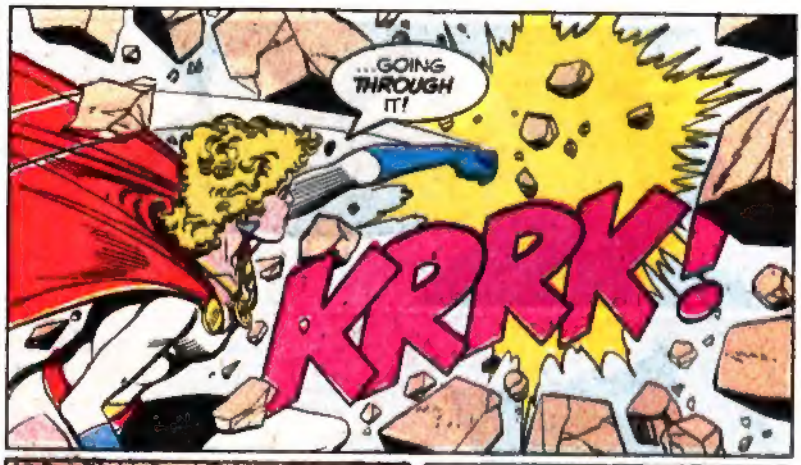
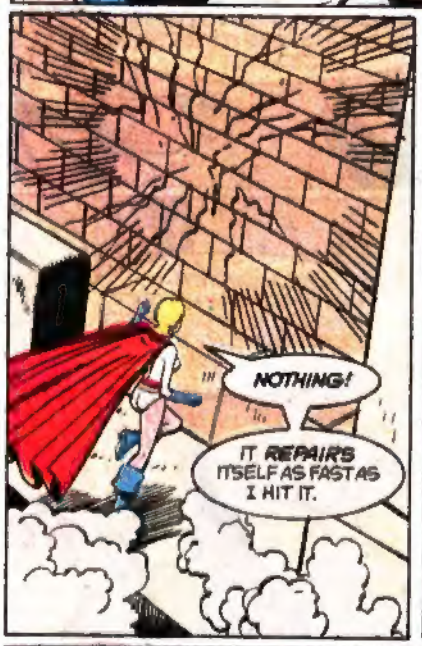
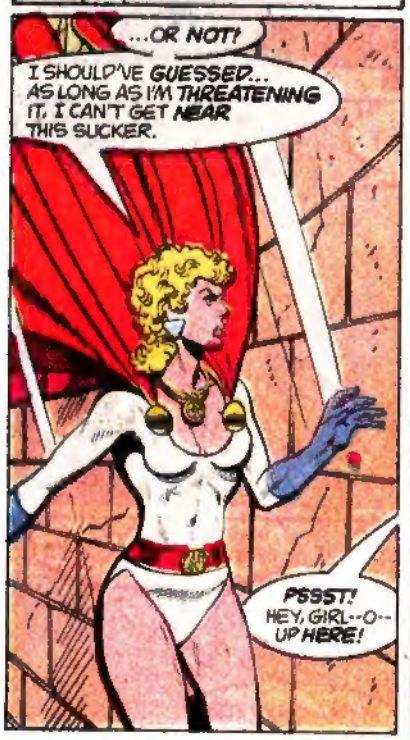

EXCEPT HE'S LEFT ME WITH NO CHOICE AND HE KNOWS IT. STRIKING AT ME IS ONE THING--
"--BUT HE DIDN'T STOP THERE! WEAVER'S BEEN ABLE TO EXERT JUST ENOUGH MAGIC ON EARTH TO INFLUENCE EVERYDAY EVENTS... PUTTING ME AT RISK OF LOSING MY BUSINESS...
"...AND RUINING THE LIVES OF MY BEST FRIENDS WITH EVERY LITTLE ANNOYING DISASTER HE COULD CREATE!
"I KNEW I WAS BEING LED AROUND BY THE NOSE BY SOMEONE... BUT WHO?
"FROM THE VARIETY AND POWER OF THE SUPER-VILLAINS BEING SENT TO HARASS ME, I KNEW IT HAD TO BE SOMEONE BIG--
"--BUT IT WASN'T UNTIL THE PHANTOM STRANGER POPPED UP TO CONFIRM WHAT I WAS SEEING BUT NOT REALLY BELIEVING...
"MAGIC!"
I MAY'VE BEEN BORN IN ANCIENT ATLANTIS, BUT MY MEMORIES GIVE ME A 20th CENTURY PERSPECTIVE ON THINGS. IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE IN MAGIC IN THIS DAY AND AGE...
...ALTHOUGH I'VE GOT TO ADMIT, ALL THIS IS MAKING IT A WHOLE ...LOT EASIER.
THIS THING MAKES THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA LOOK LIKE A GARDEN FENCE... IT GOES ON FOREVER.
WANNA BET THIS'S THE BARRIER BETWEEN MAGIC AND REALITY?
WANNA BET I'M NOT SURE JUST WHAT REALITY IS ANYMORE? TIME AND SPACE DON'T SEEM TO MEAN ANYTHING HERE.


WELL, NO USE WORRYING ABOUT LITTLE THINGS LIKE PHYSICS NOW. I'VE GOT TO GO ON THE ASSUMPTION FROM NOW ON THAT EVERYTHING I KNOW IS WRONG.
OKAY... SO GOING AROUND IT IS IMPOSSIBLE--WHICH LEAVES ME WITH ONLY ONE OPTION...


...GOING THROUGH IT!
KRRK!


NOTHING!
IT REPAIRS ITSELF AS FAST AS I HIT IT.

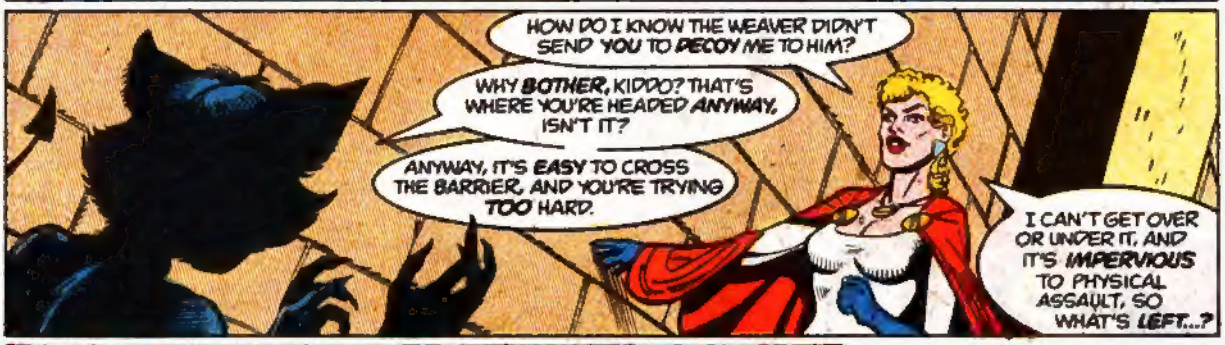
GUESS THIS CALLS FOR EVEN MORE DRASTIC MEASURES. IF I WORK UP ENOUGH OF A HEAD OF STEAM BEFORE I HIT, I'LL BE THROUGH BEFORE IT CAN REFORM...

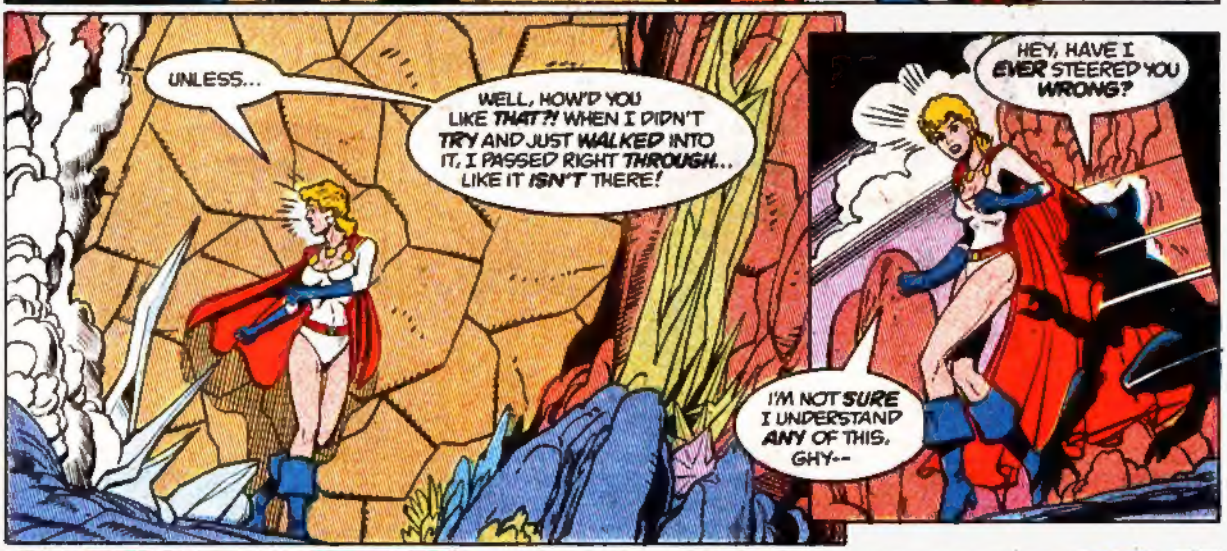

...OR NOT!
I SHOULD'VE GUESSED... AS LONG AS I'M THREATENING IT, I CAN'T GET NEAR THIS SUCKER.
PSSST! HEY, GIRL--O--UP HERE!

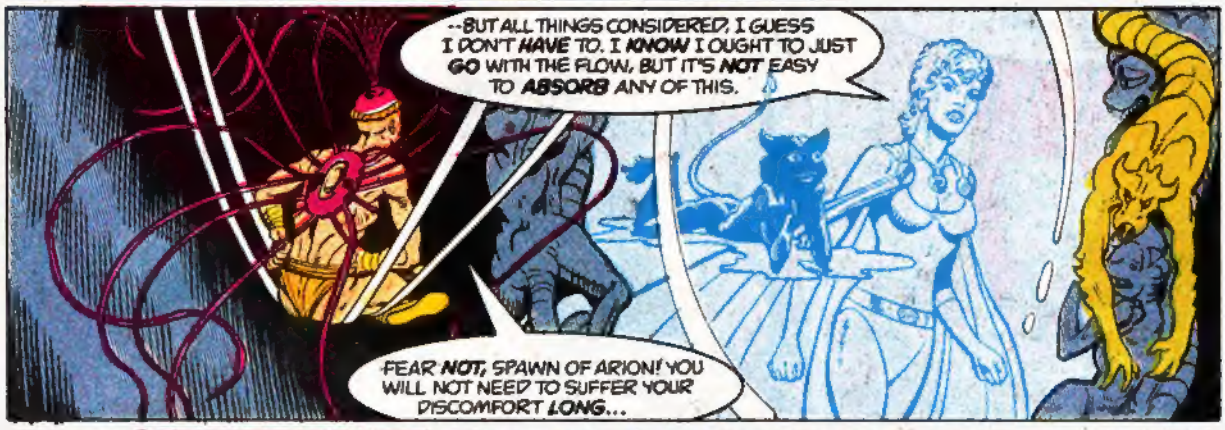
YOU'RE REALLY GOING ABOUT THIS THE WRONG WAY, Y'KNOW?
WHO ARE YOU?

JUST WHAT YOU NEED, FROM THE LOOKS OF THINGS, KARA. BUT IF YOU'VE GOT TO CALL ME SOMETHING, I'LL ANSWER TO GHY.
UHM... HOW DO YOU KNOW MY NAME? WHAT'D YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS?

YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING! THIS IS DARKWORLD. THERE'S NOT MUCH THAT GOES ON AROUND THESE PARTS THAT I DON'T KNOW ABOUT. LIKE YOU...THE WEAVER...YOUR PROBLEMS...
...AND HOW TO GET TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WALL!


HOW DO I KNOW THE WEAVER DIDN'T SEND YOU TO DECOY ME TO HIM?
WHY BOTHER, KIDDO? THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE HEADED ANYWAY, ISN'T IT?
ANYWAY, IT'S EASY TO CROSS THE BARRIER, AND YOU'RE TRYING TOO HARD.
I CAN'T GET OVER OR UNDER IT, AND IT'S IMPERVIOUS TO PHYSICAL ASSAULT, SO WHAT'S LEFT...?


UNLESS...
WELL, HOW'D YOU LIKE THAT?! WHEN I DIDN'T TRY AND JUST WALKED INTO IT, I PASSED RIGHT THROUGH... LIKE IT ISN'T THERE!
HEY, HAVE I EVER STEERED YOU WRONG?
I'M NOT SURE I UNDERSTAND ANY OF THIS. GHY--


--BUT ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, I GUESS I DON'T HAVE TO. I KNOW I OUGHT TO JUST GO WITH THE FLOW, BUT IT'S NOT EASY TO ABSORB ANY OF THIS.
FEAR NOT, SPAWN OF ARION! YOU WILL NOT NEED TO SUFFER YOUR DISCOMFORT LONG...

...FOR ONCE YOU ARE IN MY GRASP, YOUR LIFE WILL BE MEASURED IN HEART-BEATS!
SO, COME, GIRL... COME WILLINGLY TO YOUR DOOM!

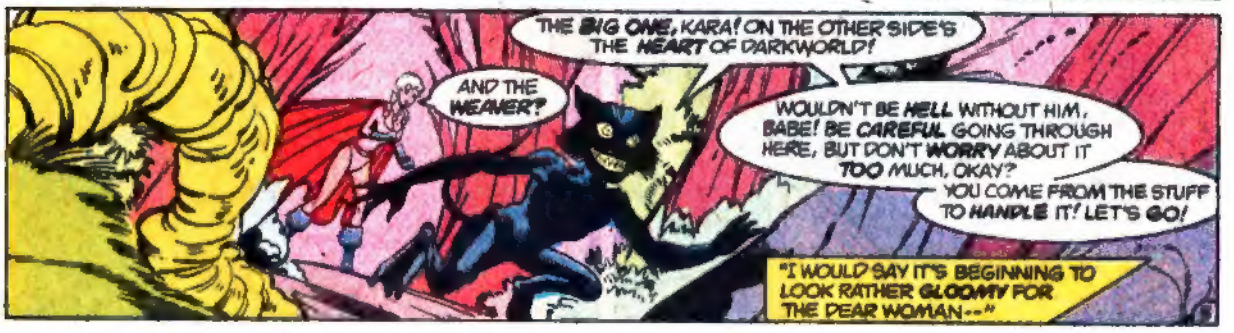
WHAT DO I HAVE TO LOOK FORWARD TO NEXT, GHY?
UHHH...CAN'T TELL YOU, KIDDO.

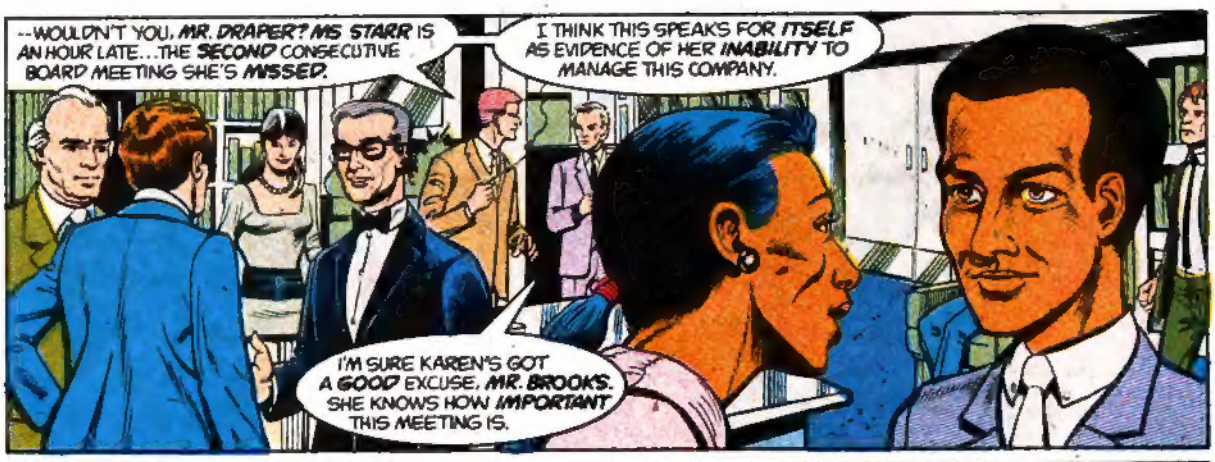
DOES THAT MEAN YOU DON'T KNOW HOW I'M SUPPOSED TO FIND THE WEAVER?
OH, SURE. I CAN DO THAT...HEY, IT'S YOUR SKIN, RIGHT? I'M JUST NOT ALLOWED TO TELL YOU WHAT'S COMING UP.
GREAT. WHO MAKES UP THE RULES AROUND HERE?

NOWADAYS, MOSTLY THE WEAVER. HE'S THE LAST OF THE OLD GOD'S WITH ANY POWER LEFT IN DARKWORLD. ER...YOU DO AT LEAST KNOW THAT DARKWORLD'S A SOURCE OF MAGIC IN YOUR UNIVERSE, DON'T YOU?
WHAT'S LEFT IS MORE THAN ENOUGH FOR ME. SO WHAT'S YOUR STAKE IN THIS? WHY'RE YOU HELPING ME?
ANYWAY, EVER SINCE SCIENCE REPLACED MAGIC AS THE DOMINANT FORCE IN THE COSMOS, DARKWORLD'S SPACE AND POWER HAVE BEEN SHRINKING. I MEAN, YOU SHOULD'A SEEN US A COUPLE'A EONS AGO!

HAH! LOOK AT YOU, KIDDO. WITHOUT ME TO SHOW YOU THE ROPES, YOU'D BE EATEN ALIVE IN HERE!
SO YOU'RE JUST A FURRY BOY SCOUT WHO GETS OFF HELPING DAMSELS IN DISTRESS, HUH?

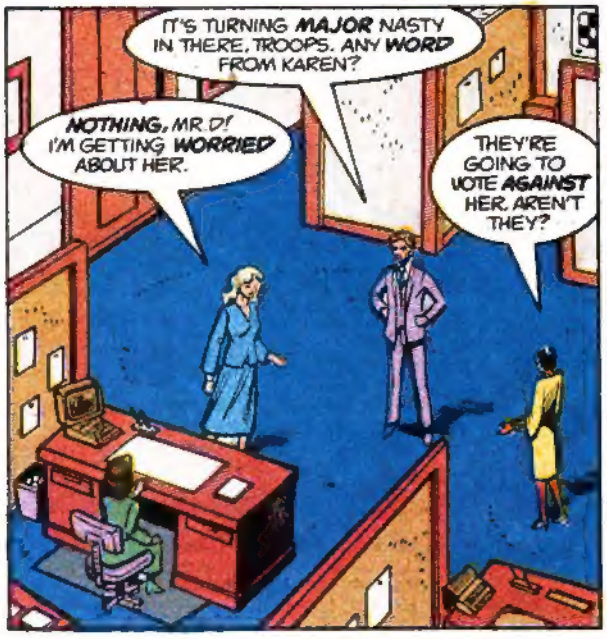
CERTAIN DAMSELS, YEAH. BUT I WOULDN'T BE SWEATING THAT RIGHT NOW--NOT WHEN YOU'RE GOING TO BE DEALING WITH THAT IN A MINUTE.
LOOKS CHARMING. WHAT IS IT?


THE BIG ONE, KARA! ON THE OTHER SIDE'S THE HEART OF DARKWORLD!
AND THE WEAVER?
WOULDN'T BE HELL WITHOUT HIM, BABE! BE CAREFUL GOING THROUGH HERE, BUT DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT TOO MUCH, OKAY?
YOU COME FROM THE STUFF TO HANDLE IT! LET'S GO!
"I WOULD SAY IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK RATHER GLOOMY FOR THE DEAR WOMAN--"

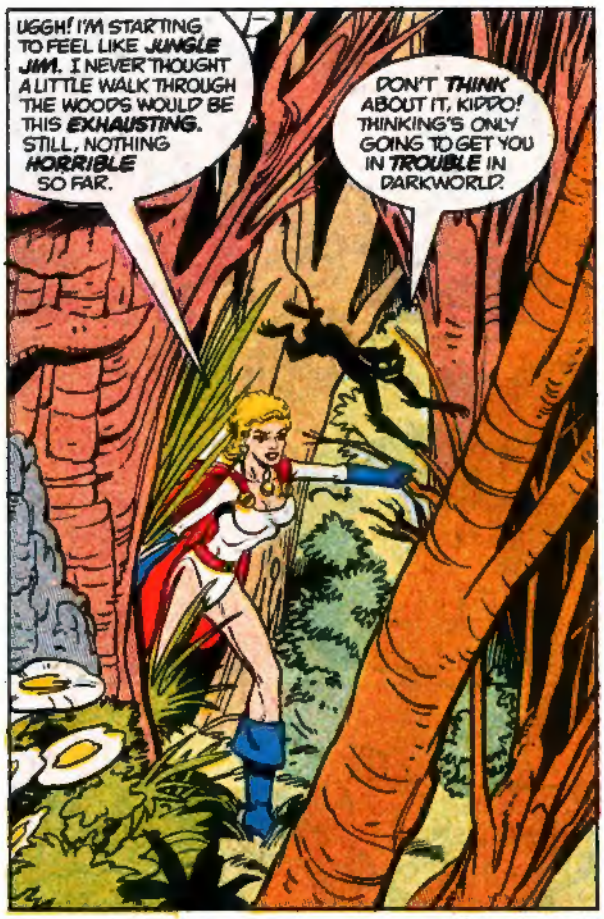

--WOULDN'T YOU, MR. DRAPER? MS STARR IS AN HOUR LATE...THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE BOARD MEETING SHE'S MISSED.
I THINK THIS SPEAKS FOR ITSELF AS EVIDENCE OF HER INABILITY TO MANAGE THIS COMPANY.
I'M SURE KAREN'S GOT A GOOD EXCUSE, MR. BROOKS. SHE KNOWS HOW IMPORTANT THIS MEETING IS.

I WONDER IF SHE DOES.
LOOK, YOU KNOW AS WELL AS I DO WHAT KAREN'S DONE TO BUILD THIS COMPANY, BROOKS! SHE'S GIVEN THIS COMPANY A FUTURE--
--BUT ALL YOU CARE ABOUT IS SELLING OUT TO GET A FAST RETURN ON YOUR INVESTMENT.

I AM A BUSINESSMAN, MR. DRAPER, MAKING THE MOST MONEY IN THE LEAST TIME IS WHAT I DO. BUT STARRWARE'S FATE IS NOT FOR ME TO DECIDE.
THAT IS WHAT THE BOARD DOES... WITH OR WITHOUT MS STARR IN ATTENDANCE.
I'LL...I'LL TRY KAREN AT HOME AGAIN. EXCUSE ME.


IT'S TURNING MAJOR NASTY IN THERE, TROOPS. ANY WORD FROM KAREN?
NOTHING, MR. D! I'M GETTING WORRIED ABOUT HER.
THEY'RE GOING TO VOTE AGAINST HER, AREN'T THEY?

YEAH... I THINK SO. IT'S GOING TO TAKE A MIRACLE TO PULL OFF A WIN AGAINST BROOKS--
--AND I JUST DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START LOOKING FOR ONE...!


UGGH! I'M STARTING TO FEEL LIKE JUNGLE JIM. I NEVER THOUGHT A LITTLE WALK THROUGH THE WOODS WOULD BE THIS EXHAUSTING. STILL, NOTHING HORRIBLE SO FAR.
DON'T THINK ABOUT IT, KIDDO! THINKING'S ONLY GOING TO GET YOU IN TROUBLE IN DARKWORLD.

MUCH AS I APPRECIATE THE HELP, I'D LIKE IT A LOT BETTER IF YOU'D STOP BEATING AROUND THE BUSH AND GIVE ME SOME STRAIGHT ANSWERS.

'CAUSE I'M NOT ALLOWED TO, I TOLD YOU. BUT IF YOU'LL KEEP AN OPEN MIND TO WHAT I CAN SAY, MAYBE...
JUST LIKE MY KARATE INSTRUCTOR, MONGO KREBS-- NEVER GIVING AN ANSWER WHEN HE CAN AGGRAVATE WITH SOME ZEN PUZZLE!
AND YOU NEVER GOT ANY OF IT, DID YOU, KAREN?

LIKE YOU'D UNDERSTAND EVEN IF I TOLD YOU? YOU'RE TOO WRAPPED UP IN YOURSELF TO EVER BE ANY GOOD... FOR ANYTHING!
MONGO? BUT HOW DID YOU...?
I WARNED HER, DIDN'T I? BUT NO, SHE WOULDN'T LISTEN!

PAY ATTENTION NOW...THIS'S ONE LESSON YOU DON'T WANNA MISS!
JEEZ, HOW LAME CAN YOU GET? A BLIND MAN COULD'VE BLOCKED THAT SHOT!
UHHNN!

THAT HURT! BUT MONGO'S JUST AN ORDINARY MAN...
...AND I'M POWER GIRL. HIS FOOT SHOULD'VE BEEN BROKEN BY THAT BLOW, BUT MY POWERS AREN'T GIVING ME ANY EDGE HERE.
IN FACT, HAVING SUPER-POWERS HASN'T DONE ME ONE BIT OF GOOD SINCE I GOT TO DARKWORLD...!

THERE'S A REASON FOR THAT, LITTLE GIRL-- YOU DON'T GOT WHAT IT TAKES! YOU COULD HAVE ALL THE BLASTED POWERS IN THE WORLD...
...AND ALL THAT'D MAKE YOU IS A SUPER-LOSER!
NO...THIS...THIS ISN'T HAPPENING! IT CAN'T BE! I SEE HIM...HEAR HIM... FEEL THE BLOWS...

...BUT MONGO CAN'T BE HERE! HE'S PART OF THE REAL WORLD...ON EARTH, WHERE I HAVE MY LIFE AND FRIENDS...

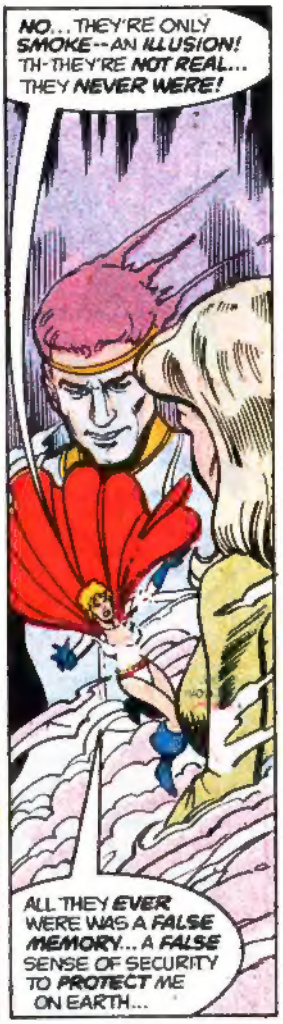
...MY BUSINESS...
MY GOD... MY BUSINESS--?! THESE'RE STARRWARE'S OFFICES...!
YOU WANT REALITY, YOU GOT IT...

...ONLY DON'T EXPECT TO LIKE IT, KAREN!
IT'S TIME YOU LEARNED THE TRUTH!
YEAH--AND THE TRUTH HURTS, BABY!
JOYCE...LIZ...GARTH-- ALL OF YOU... YOU'RE MY FRIENDS!

MAYBE ONCE. MAYBE... BUT NO MORE! JUST KNOWING YOU'S BROUGHT DISASTER TO EVERYONE AROUND YOU!
ANDREW! PLEASE...IT'S NOT MY FAULT! WE WERE ALL BEING USED...

...PLEASEEEE! OH, LORD...I... I CAN'T FLY--! WHAT'S HAPPENED TO MY POWERS...?!

BELOW ME... WHO--? ZOR-EL AND ALLURA... MY...PARENTS! THEY'LL SAVE ME...


NO... THEY'RE ONLY SMOKE--AN ILLUSION! TH-THEY'RE NOT REAL... THEY NEVER WERE!
ALL THEY EVER WERE WAS A FALSE MEMORY... A FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY TO PROTECT ME ON EARTH...

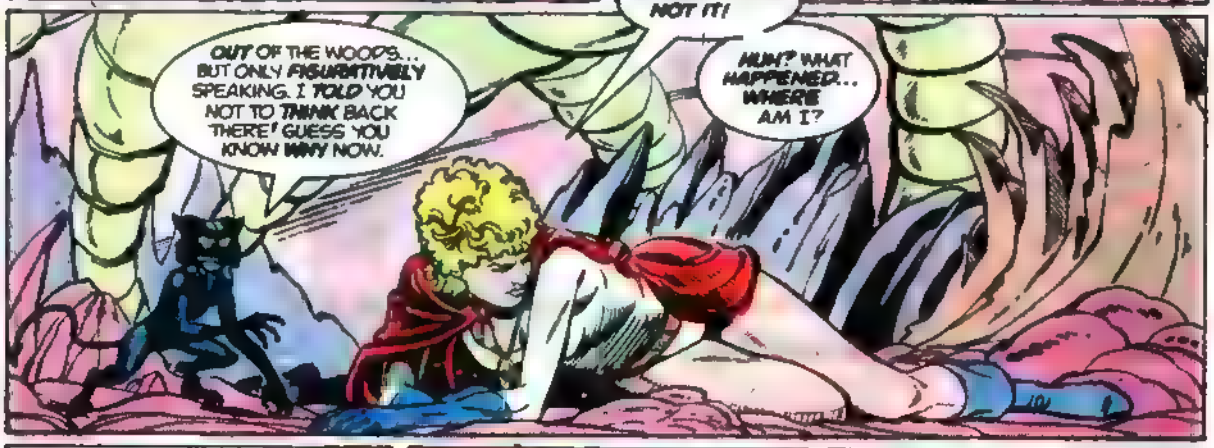
...GIVEN TO ME BY ARION...
...ARION! GRANDFATHER... HE'S REAL-- MAGICAL!
AYE, GRANDDAUGHTER. YET AM I MASTER MAGE OF THIS REALM...

...AND 'TIS WITHIN MY POWER TO SAVE THEE.
IF I SO DESIRED! HA HA HA!

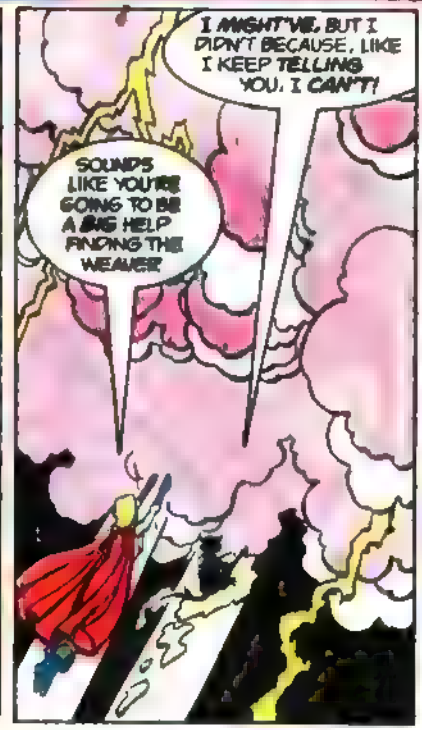
GRANDFATHER! YOU'VE GOT TO SAVE ME...!

AND UNDO ALL MY HARD LABOR I INVESTED WHEN I DID BANISH YOU FROM ATLANTIS...
...AND MY SIGHT?
THAT'S NOT TRUE... YOU SENT ME AWAY TO SAVE ATLANTIS... AND ME! YOU... YOU LOVE ME!

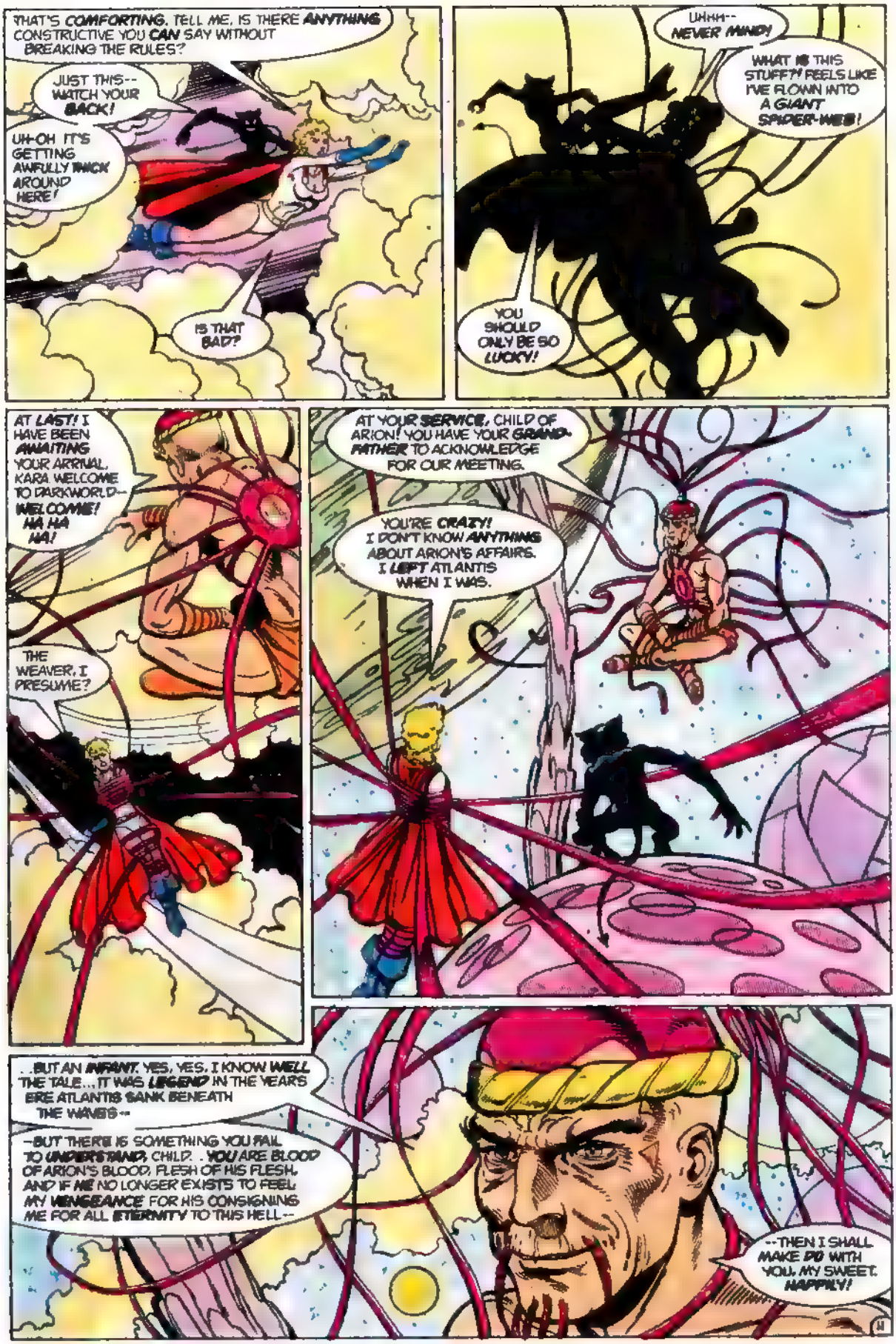
I WOULD AS SOON DROWN YOU AS A MONGREL PUP, GIRL! YOU ARE NOTHING TO ME NOTHING! NOTHING!
YOU'RE LYING, DAMN YOU! YOU'RE NO MORE REAL THAN THE OTHERS... ARION'S SPIRIT TOLD ME THE TRUTH...
...AND YOU'RE NOT IT!

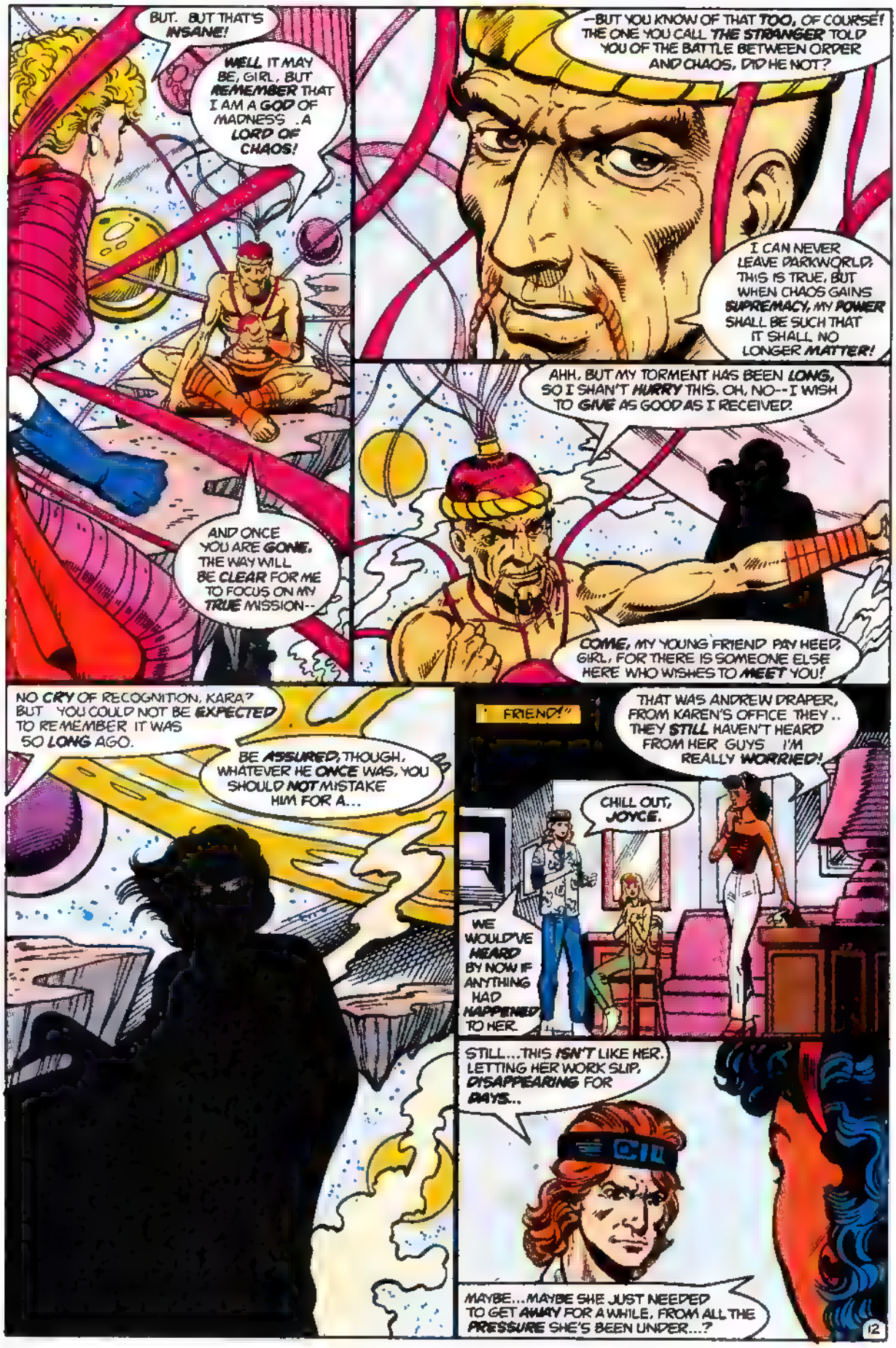

OUT OF THE WOODS... BUT ONLY FIGURATIVELY SPEAKING. I TOLD YOU NOT TO THINK BACK THERE! GUESS YOU KNOW WHY NOW.
HUH? WHAT HAPPENED... WHERE AM I?

SEE, CROSSING THE LINE BETWEEN MAGIC AND REALITY MADE YOU VULNERABLE TO DARKWORLD'S INFLUENCE--
--HITTING YOU RIGHT IN THE OLD INSECURITIES. IT'S AN OLD TRICK, BUT BOY--DID YOU FALL FOR IT!
YOU MIGHT'VE WARNED ME, GHY.

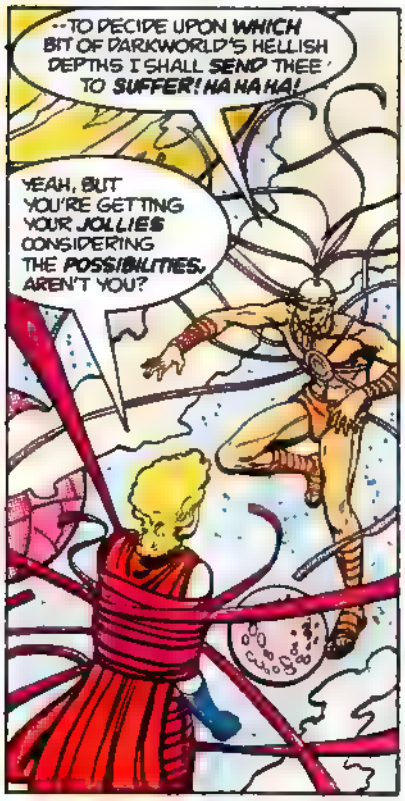

I MIGHT'VE, BUT I DIDN'T BECAUSE, LIKE I KEEP TELLING YOU, I CAN'T!
SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE GOING TO BE A BIG HELP FINDING THE WEAVER

IF THAT'S ALL THAT'S ON YOUR MIND, YOU CAN RELAX. HE'LL BE FINDING YOU WITH NO PROBLEM--!

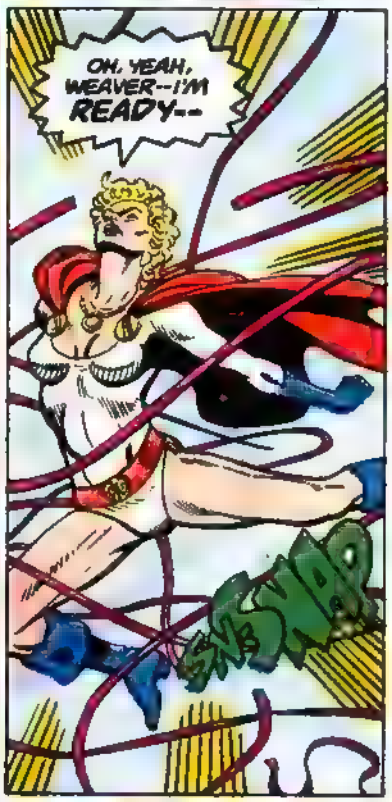

THAT'S COMFORTING. TELL ME, IS THERE ANYTHING CONSTRUCTIVE YOU CAN SAY WITHOUT BREAKING THE RULES?
JUST THIS-- WATCH YOUR BACK!
UH-OH IT'S GETTING AWFULLY THICK AROUND HERE!
IS THAT BAD?
UHHH-- NEVER MIND!
WHAT IS THIS STUFF? FEELS LIKE I'VE FLOWN INTO A GIANT SPIDER-WEB!
YOU SHOULD ONLY BE SO LUCKY!
AT LAST! I HAVE BEEN AWAITING YOUR ARRIVAL, KARA. WELCOME TO DARKWORLD-- WELCOME! HA HA HA!
THE WEAVER, I PRESUME?
AT YOUR SERVICE, CHILD OF ARION! YOU HAVE YOUR GRANDFATHER TO ACKNOWLEDGE FOR OUR MEETING.
YOU'RE CRAZY! I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ARION'S AFFAIRS. I LEFT ATLANTIS WHEN I WAS.
...BUT AN INFANT. YES, YES, I KNOW WELL THE TALE... IT WAS LEGEND IN THE YEARS ERE ATLANTIS SANK BENEATH THE WAVES--
--BUT THERE IS SOMETHING YOU FAIL TO UNDERSTAND, CHILD. YOU ARE BLOOD OF ARION'S BLOOD, FLESH OF HIS FLESH, AND IF ME NO LONGER EXISTS TO FEEL MY VENGEANCE FOR HIS CONSIGNING ME FOR ALL ETERNITY TO THIS HELL--
--THEN I SHALL MAKE DO WITH YOU, MY SWEET. HAPPILY!

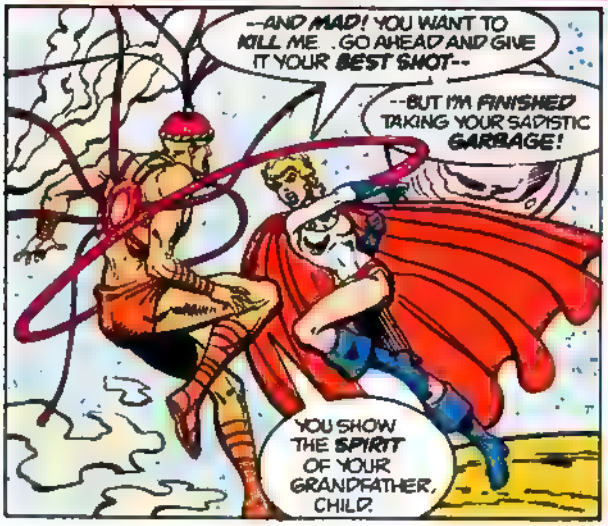

BUT. BUT THAT'S INSANE!
WELL IT MAY BE, GIRL, BUT REMEMBER THAT I AM A GOD OF MADNESS . A LORD OF CHAOS!
AND ONCE YOU ARE GONE, THE WAY WILL BE CLEAR FOR ME TO FOCUS ON MY TRUE MISSION--
--BUT YOU KNOW OF THAT TOO, OF COURSE! THE ONE YOU CALL THE STRANGER TOLD YOU OF THE BATTLE BETWEEN ORDER AND CHAOS, DID HE NOT?
I CAN NEVER LEAVE DARKWORLD. THIS IS TRUE, BUT WHEN CHAOS GAINS SUPREMACY, MY POWER SHALL BE SUCH THAT IT SHALL NO LONGER MATTER!
AHH, BUT MY TORMENT HAS BEEN LONG, SO I SHAN'T HURRY THIS. OH, NO--I WISH TO GIVE AS GOOD AS I RECEIVED.
COME, MY YOUNG FRIEND PAY HEED, GIRL, FOR THERE IS SOMEONE ELSE HERE WHO WISHES TO MEET YOU!
NO CRY OF RECOGNITION, KARA? BUT YOU COULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO REMEMBER IT WAS SO LONG AGO.
BE ASSURED, THOUGH, WHATEVER HE ONCE WAS, YOU SHOULD NOT MISTAKE HIM FOR A...
FRIEND?"
THAT WAS ANDREW DRAPER, FROM KAREN'S OFFICE THEY .. THEY STILL HAVEN'T HEARD FROM HER GUYS I'M REALLY WORRIED!
CHILL OUT, JOYCE.
WE WOULD'VE HEARD BY NOW IF ANYTHING HAD HAPPENED TO HER.
STILL...THIS ISN'T LIKE HER. LETTING HER WORK SLIP, DISAPPEARING FOR DAYS...
MAYBE...MAYBE SHE JUST NEEDED TO GET AWAY FOR A WHILE, FROM ALL THE PRESSURE SHE'S BEEN UNDER...?

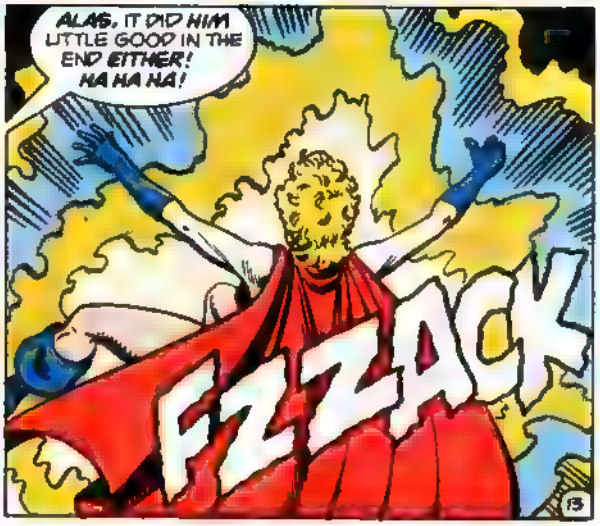
AND NOT TELL ANY OF US, HER BEST FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS? NO WAY!
OHHH... YOU DON'T THINK SHE FOUND OUT ABOUT TONIGHT'S BLIND DATE I ARRANGED FOR HER AND SHE'S HIDING! NO, THAT'S STUPID, ISN'T IT?
I GUESS I'M JUST HOPING THE EXPLANATION'S THAT SIMPLE...
"... AHHH, BUT 'TIS NO EASY TASK CHOOSING AN APPROPRIATE FATE FOR THEE, GIRL--"

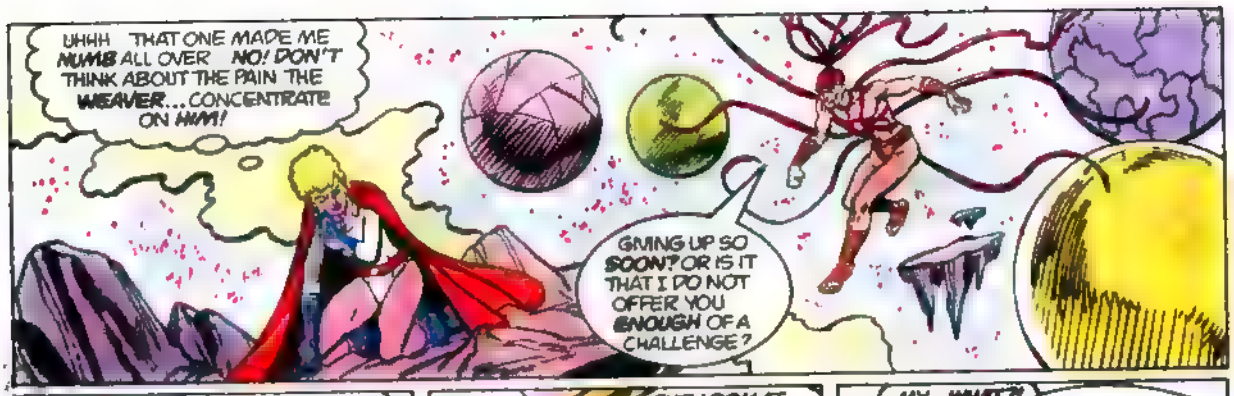

--TO DECIDE UPON WHICH BIT OF DARKWORLD'S HELLISH DEPTHS I SHALL SEND THEE TO SUFFER! HA HA HA!
YEAH, BUT YOU'RE GETTING YOUR JOLLIES CONSIDERING THE POSSIBILITIES, AREN'T YOU?

THIS I DO NOT DENY. BUT I HAVE MADE MY DECISION! ARE YOU READY, KARA?
READY?


OH, YEAH, WEAVER--I'M READY--
SNAP


--AND MAD! YOU WANT TO KILL ME. GO AHEAD AND GIVE IT YOUR BEST SHOT--
--BUT I'M FINISHED TAKING YOUR SADISTIC GARBAGE!
YOU SHOW THE SPIRIT OF YOUR GRANDFATHER, CHILD.


ALAS, IT DID HIM LITTLE GOOD IN THE END EITHER! HA HA HA!
FZZACK

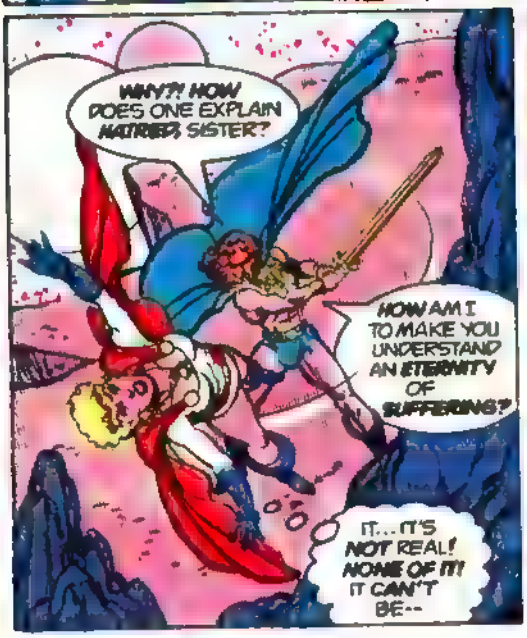

UHHH THAT ONE MADE ME NUMB ALL OVER NO! DON'T THINK ABOUT THE PAIN THE WEAVER... CONCENTRATE ON HIM!
GIVING UP SO SOON? OR IS IT THAT I DO NOT OFFER YOU ENOUGH OF A CHALLENGE?

PERHAPS MY COMPANION WILL BE MORE TO YOUR LIKING!
MY THANKS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY, MASTER. YOU KNOW HOW I HAVE LONGED FOR THIS MOMENT.

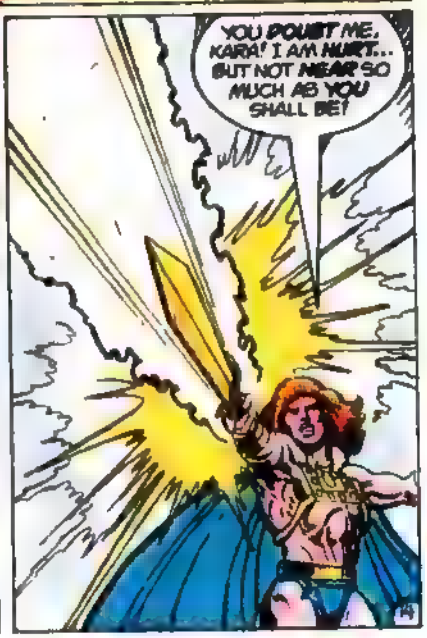
BUT LOOK AT HER! THE IGNORANT WITCH DOES NOT EVEN RECOGNIZE ME--
--KHATER, ONCE LORD OF ATLANTIS... AND YOUR BROTHER!

MY. WHAT?!
FORGET IT, WEAVER THIS'S JUST ANOTHER ONE OF YOUR TRICKS... AND I'M NOT BUYING!

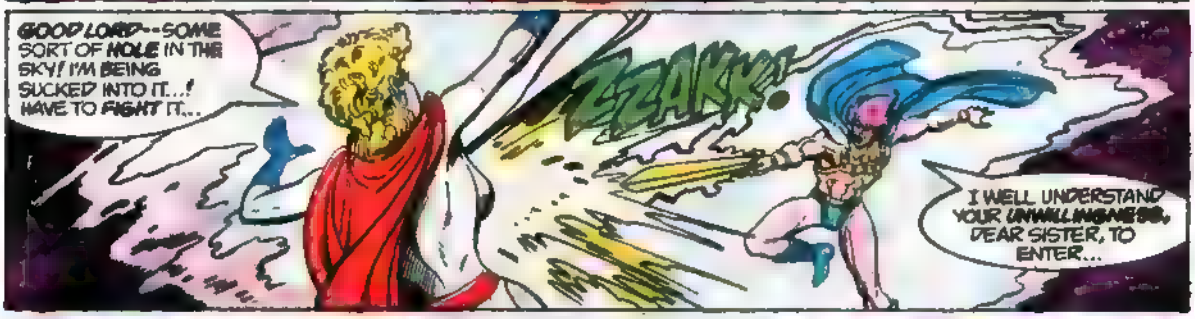
MY BLADE IS NO TRICK, SISTER.
IT LIVES WITH THE SORCEROUS POWER OF OUR ACCURSED GRANDFATHER!
UHHHHHH! IF... IF YOU ARE MY... WHO YOU SAY YOU ARE, WHY...?


WHY?! HOW DOES ONE EXPLAIN HATRED, SISTER?
HOW AM I TO MAKE YOU UNDERSTAND AN ETERNITY OF SUFFERING?
IT... IT'S NOT REAL! NONE OF IT! IT CAN'T BE--

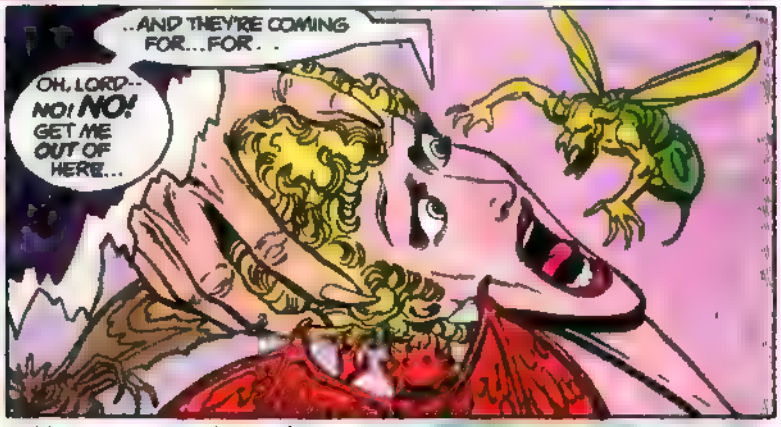
--NO MATTER WHAT IT FEELS LIKE! MY BROTHER WAS A LITTLE BOY WHEN I LEFT ATLANTIS-- I DON'T EVEN REMEMBER HIM. THIS GUY COULD BE ANYONE!

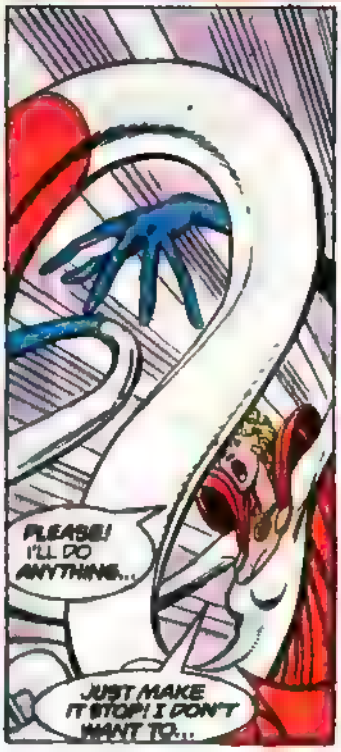

YOU DOUBT ME, KARA! I AM HURT... BUT NOT NEAR SO MUCH AS YOU SHALL BE!

I WAS BRACED FOR THE WORST, BUT THIS BLAST DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE MUCH FIZZ. IT'S...WAIT!
IT'S NOT A SPELL TO DO DAMAGE--IT'S FORCING ME BACK...AT SOMETHING BEHIND ME...A SHARP DROP IN TEMPERATURE! WHAT...?

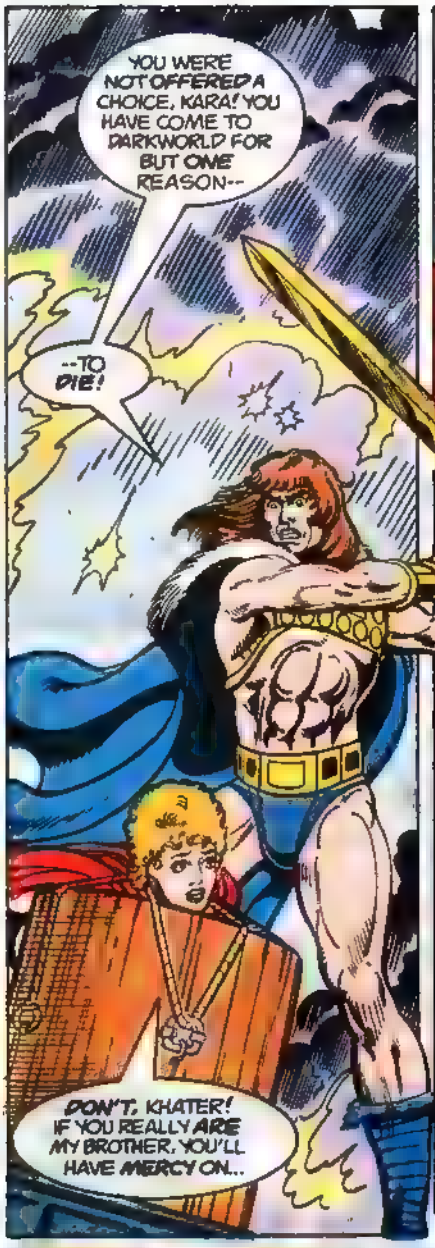

GOOD LORD--SOME SORT OF HOLE IN THE SKY! I'M BEING SUCKED INTO IT...! HAVE TO FIGHT IT...
ZZZAKK!
I WELL UNDERSTAND YOUR UNWILLINGNESS, DEAR SISTER, TO ENTER...

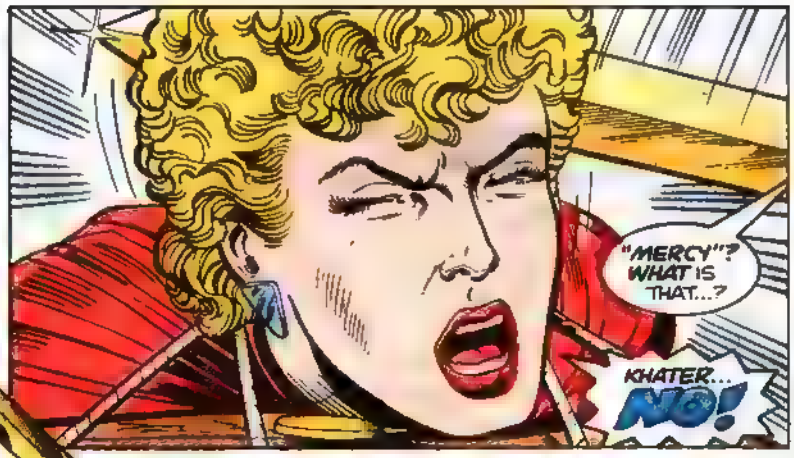
"...HELL!"
WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME!
BEING...TORN APART...HURTS...OH, GOD!
THESE THINGS...HORRIBLE...


...AND THEY'RE COMING FOR...FOR...
OH, LORD--NO! NO! GET ME OUT OF HERE...

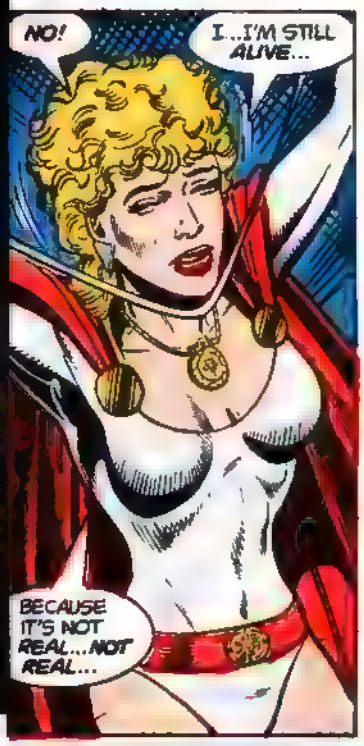

PLEASE! I'LL DO ANYTHING...
JUST MAKE IT STOP! I DON'T WANT TO...

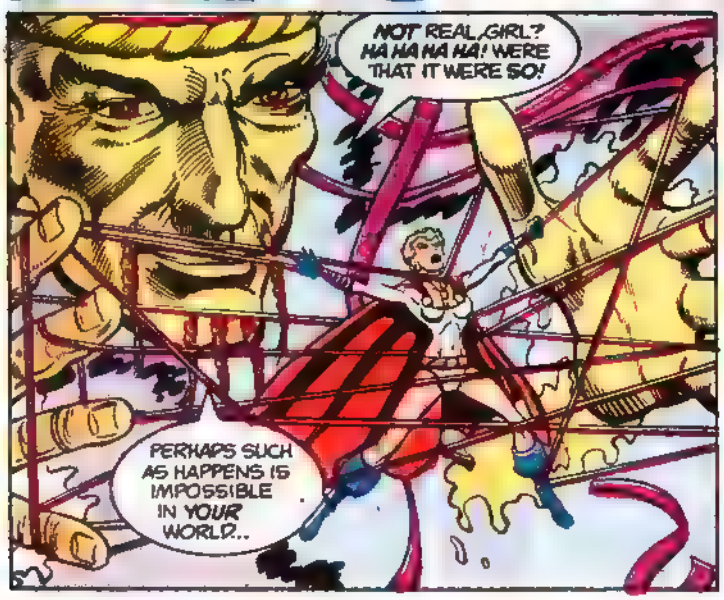
...DIE!
DON-DON'T WANT TO... TO...

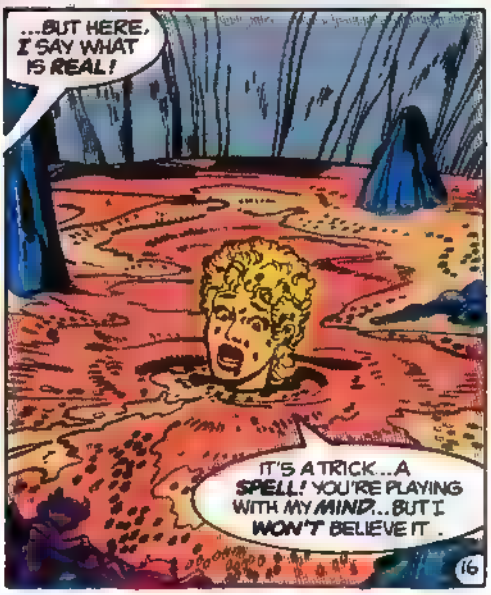

YOU WERE NOT OFFERED A CHOICE, KARA! YOU HAVE COME TO DARKWORLD FOR BUT ONE REASON--
--TO DIE!
DON'T, KHATER! IF YOU REALLY ARE MY BROTHER, YOU'LL HAVE MERCY ON...


"MERCY"? WHAT IS THAT...?
KHATER... NO!

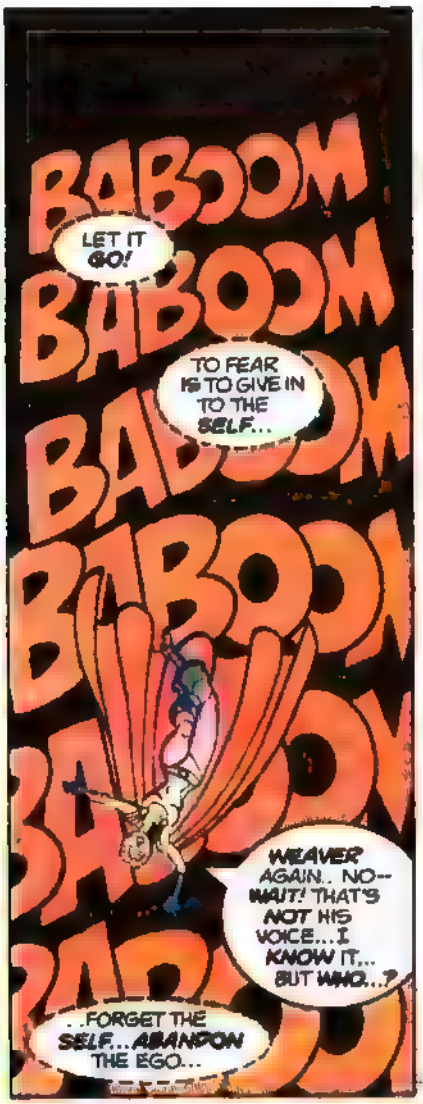
CHONK


NO!
I...I'M STILL ALIVE...
BECAUSE IT'S NOT REAL...NOT REAL...


NOT REAL, GIRL? HA HA HA HA! WERE THAT IT WERE SO!
PERHAPS SUCH AS HAPPENS IS IMPOSSIBLE IN YOUR WORLD?..

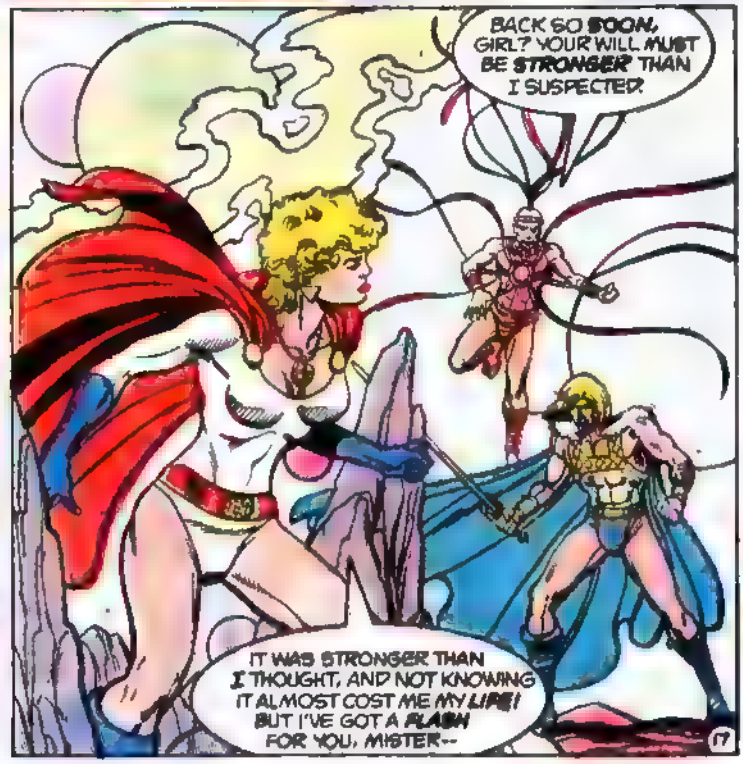

...BUT HERE, I SAY WHAT IS REAL!
IT'S A TRICK...A SPELL! YOU'RE PLAYING WITH MY MIND...BUT I WON'T BELIEVE IT.

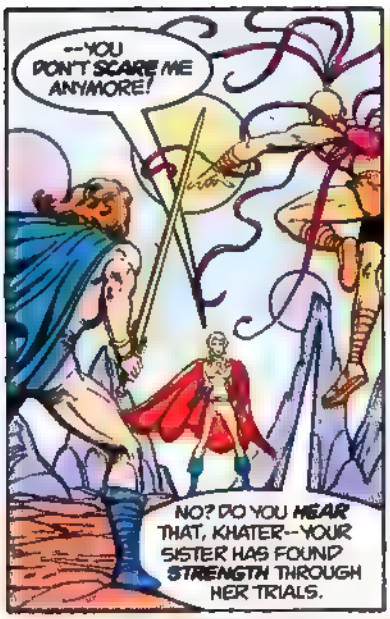
...I...I DON'T WANT TO BELIEVE IT! I DON'T BELIEVE ANYTHING...
NOTHING?
THAT NOISE... THE BEATING OF MY HEART--THE SOUND OF MY OWN FEAR!
BABOOM
BABOOM
BABOOM

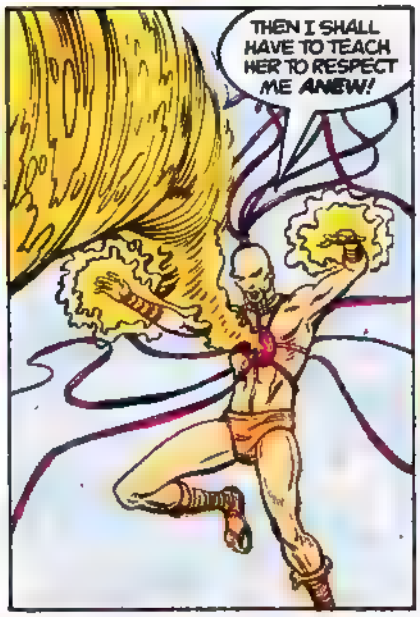

BABOOM
LET IT GO!
TO FEAR IS TO GIVE IN TO THE SELF...
WEAVER AGAIN.. NO--WAIT! THAT'S NOT HIS VOICE...I KNOW IT... BUT WHO...?
...FORGET THE SELF...ABANDON THE EGO...

BABOOM
...REACH FOR YOUR CENTER... LET IT GO...
LET IT GO... LET IT GO...
MONGO?
THIS TIME... IT'S REALLY YOU, ISN'T IT? AT LEAST WHAT YOU'VE SPENT THE LAST MONTH TRYING TO DRUM INTO MY HEAD!

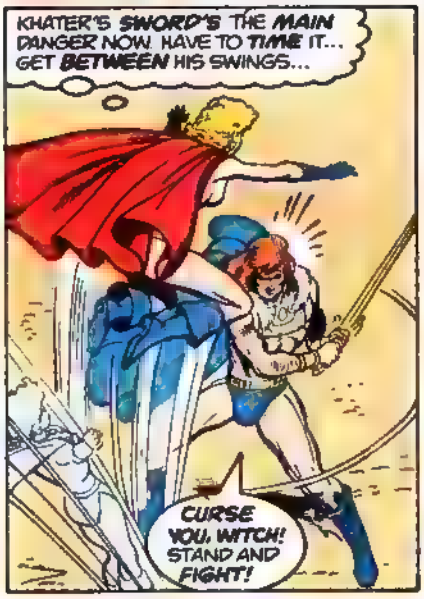
I THINK THIS TIME I'VE GOT IT...

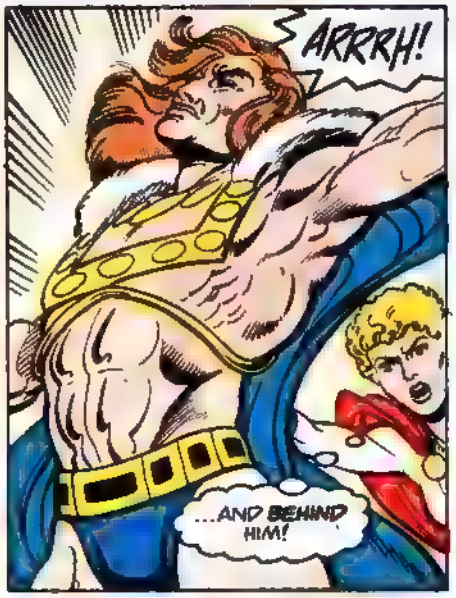

BACK SO SOON, GIRL? YOUR WILL MUST BE STRONGER THAN I SUSPECTED!
IT WAS STRONGER THAN I THOUGHT, AND NOT KNOWING IT ALMOST COST ME MY LIFE! BUT I'VE GOT A FLASH FOR YOU, MISTER--


--YOU DON'T SCARE ME ANYMORE!
NO? DO YOU HEAR THAT, KHATER--YOUR SISTER HAS FOUND STRENGTH THROUGH HER TRIALS.


THEN I SHALL HAVE TO TEACH HER TO RESPECT ME ANEW!

YEAH, EXCEPT YOU CAN'T HURT WHAT YOU DON'T HIT!
I DID IT. DODGING HIS BLAST LIKE I KNEW WHERE IT WAS GOING TO STRIKE!

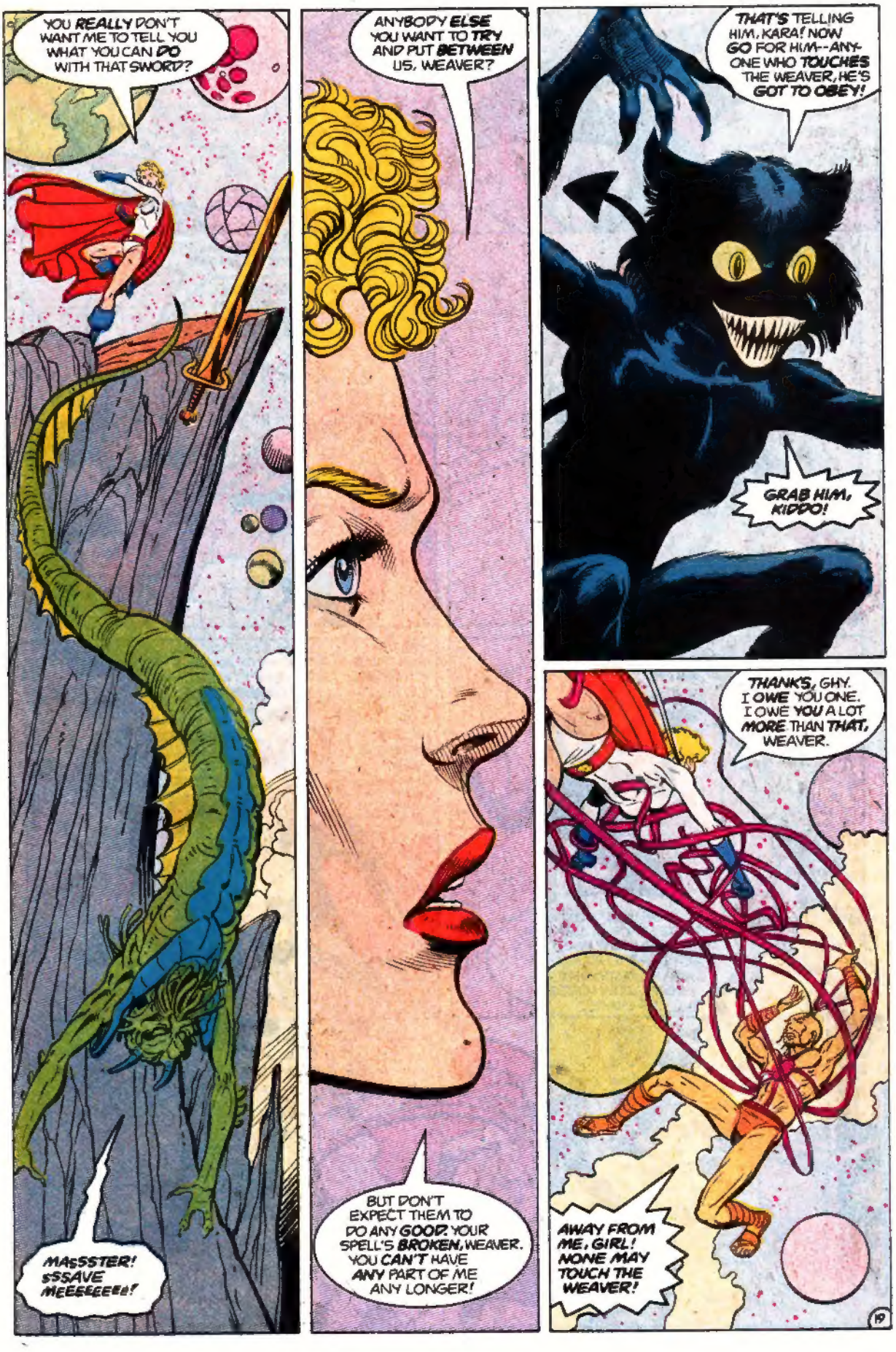

KHATER'S SWORD'S THE MAIN DANGER NOW. HAVE TO TIME IT... GET BETWEEN HIS SWINGS...
CURSE YOU, WITCH! STAND AND FIGHT!

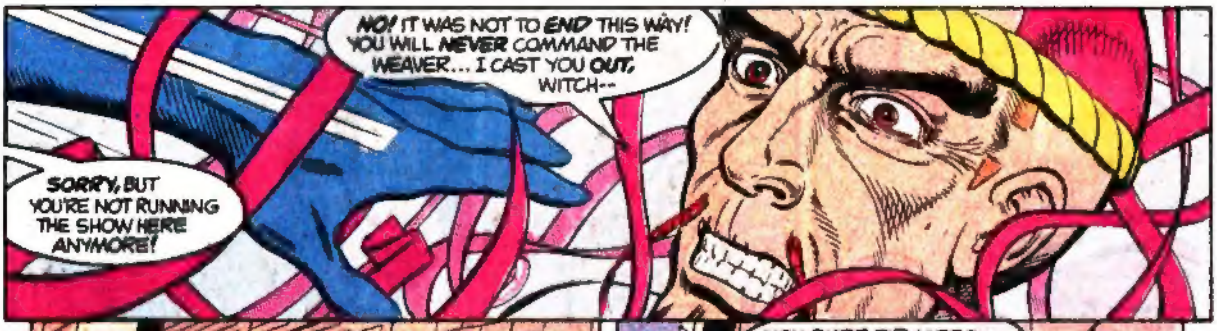

ARRRH!
...AND BEHIND HIM!

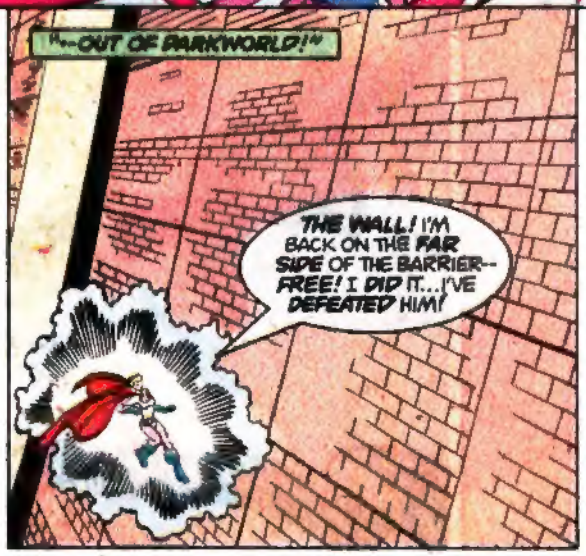
STOP HER, YOU BUMBLING IDIOT! SHE MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO LAY HANDS UPON YOU OR. .

Oh..
..my GOD!

DO YOU FIND ME HIDEOUSSS, SSSISSSTER?!
BUT WHAT MATTER MY TRUE FORM, ASSS LONG ASS MY BLADE YET REMAINSS IN HAND!

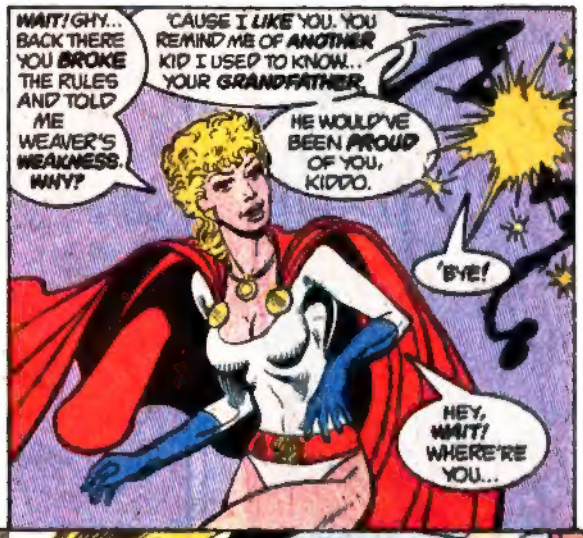

YOU REALLY DON'T WANT ME TO TELL YOU WHAT YOU CAN DO WITH THAT SWORD?
MASSSTER! SSSAVE MEEEEEEE!!
ANYBODY ELSE YOU WANT TO TRY AND PUT BETWEEN US, WEAVER?
BUT DON'T EXPECT THEM TO DO ANY GOOD. YOUR SPELL'S BROKEN, WEAVER. YOU CAN'T HAVE ANY PART OF ME ANY LONGER!
THAT'S TELLING HIM, KARA! NOW GO FOR HIM--ANYONE WHO TOUCHES THE WEAVER, HE'S GOT TO OBEY!
GRAB HIM, KIDDO!
THANKS, GHY. I OWE YOU ONE. I OWE YOU A LOT MORE THAN THAT, WEAVER.
AWAY FROM ME, GIRL! NONE MAY TOUCH THE WEAVER!
19

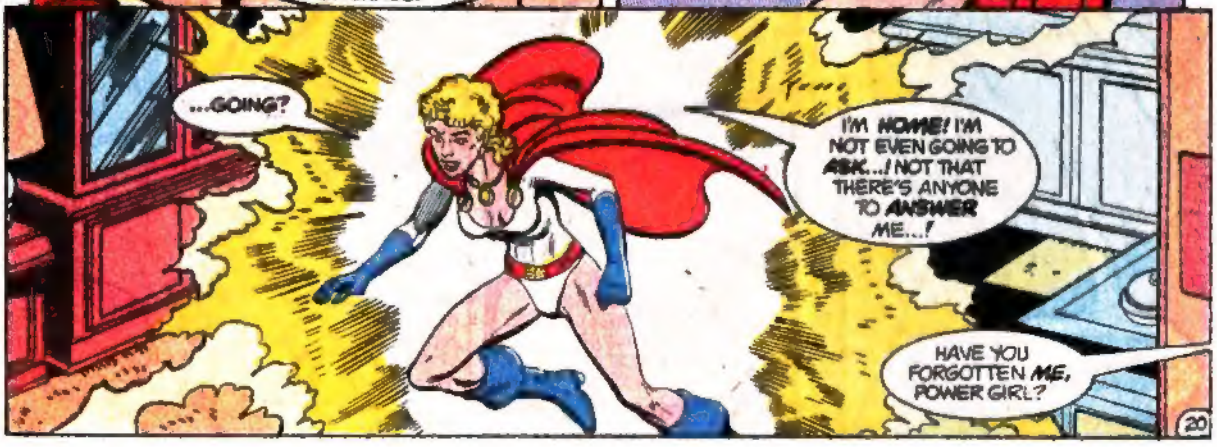

NO! IT WAS NOT TO END THIS WAY! YOU WILL NEVER COMMAND THE WEAVER... I CAST YOU OUT, WITCH--
SORRY, BUT YOU'RE NOT RUNNING THE SHOW HERE ANYMORE!


"--OUT OF DARKWORLD!"
THE WALL! I'M BACK ON THE FAR SIDE OF THE BARRIER-- FREE! I DID IT...I'VE DEFEATED HIM!

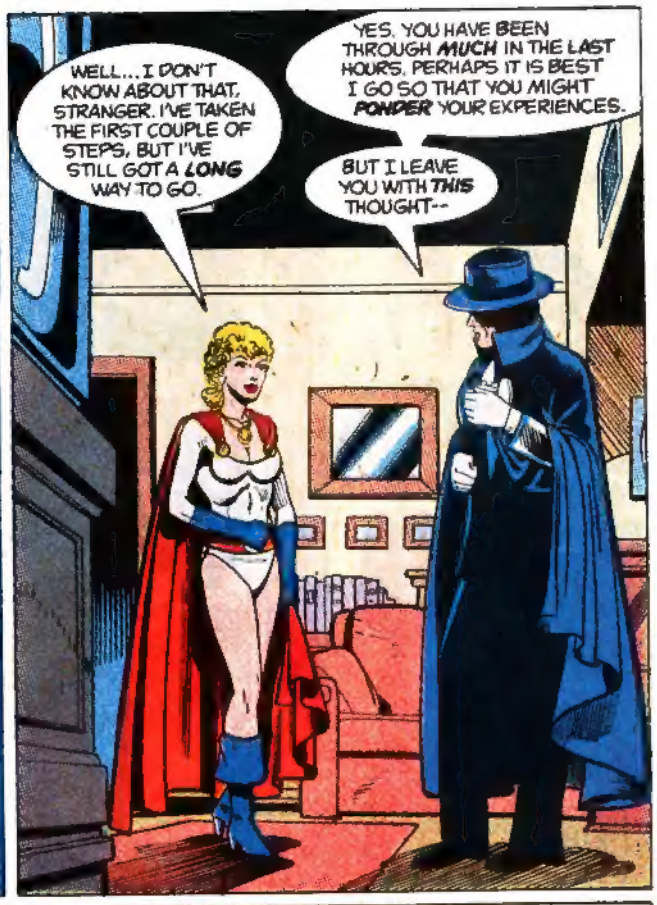
YOU SURE DID, KIDDO-- LIKE A CHAMP!
GHY! BUT HE'S STILL ON THE LOOSE. WHAT IF HE TRIES COMING AFTER ME AGAIN?

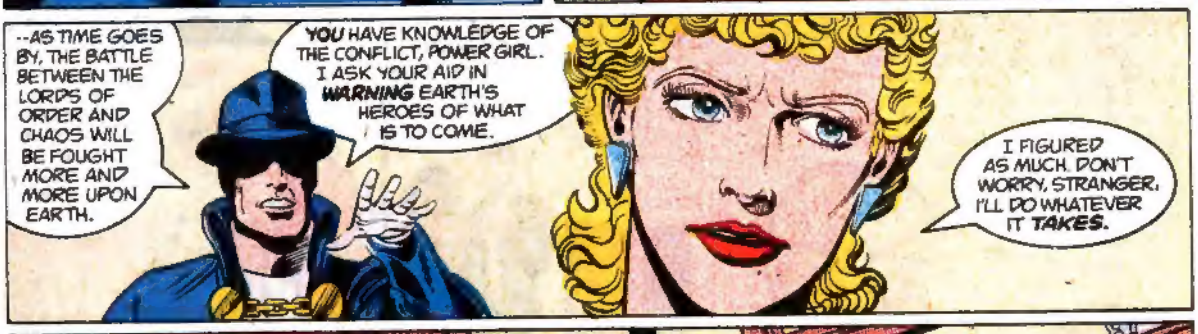
HE'S GOING TO WANT TO, NO DOUBT OF THAT--
--BUT HE USED A LOT OF ENERGY ON YOU, AND HE'S GOING TO NEED WHAT HE'S GOT LEFT TO FULFILL HIS OBLIGATIONS TO HIS FELLOW LORDS OF CHAOS.

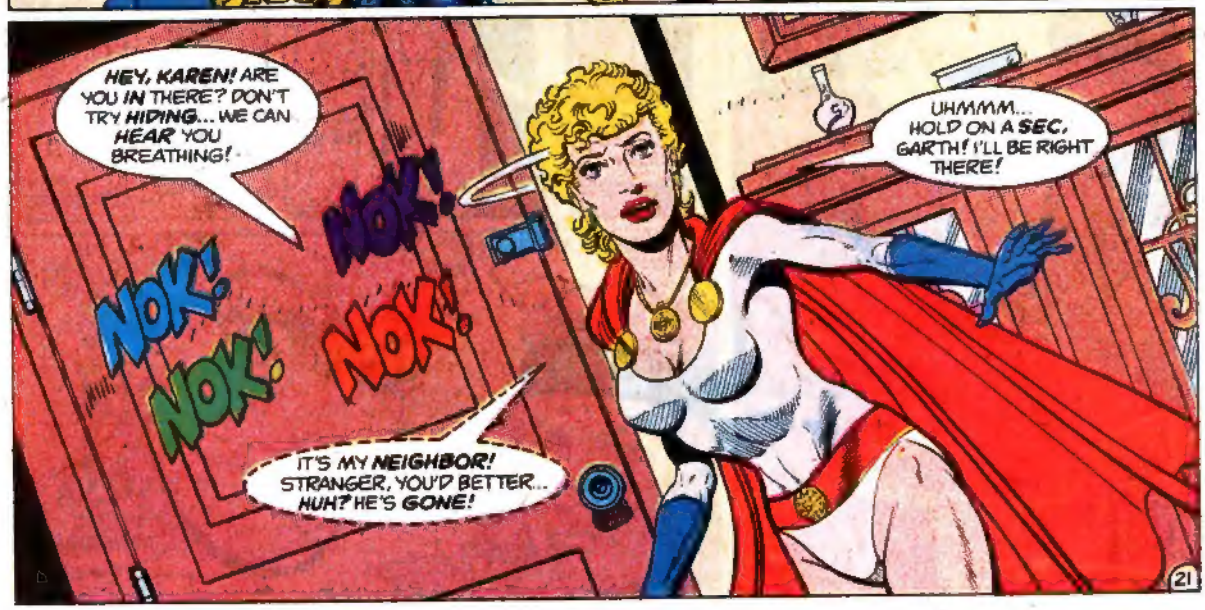

WAIT! GHY... BACK THERE YOU BROKE THE RULES AND TOLD ME WEAVER'S WEAKNESS. WHY?
'CAUSE I LIKE YOU. YOU REMIND ME OF ANOTHER KID I USED TO KNOW... YOUR GRANDFATHER.
HE WOULD'VE BEEN PROUD OF YOU, KIDDO.
'BYE!
HEY, WAIT! WHERE'RE YOU...


...GOING?
I'M HOME! I'M NOT EVEN GOING TO ASK...! NOT THAT THERE'S ANYONE TO ANSWER ME...!
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN ME, POWER GIRL?

PHANTOM STRANGER! OH... I GUESS I SHOULDN'T BE SURPRISED YOU KNOW MY SECRET IDENTITY.
I KNOW MANY THINGS--INCLUDING OF YOUR VICTORY. MY CONGRATULATIONS, KARA. THE WEAVER WAS NO MEAN FOE--
--AND THE VICTORY YOU HAVE CLAIMED OVER YOUR SOUL IS GREATER STILL!


WELL... I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT, STRANGER. I'VE TAKEN THE FIRST COUPLE OF STEPS, BUT I'VE STILL GOT A LONG WAY TO GO.
YES. YOU HAVE BEEN THROUGH MUCH IN THE LAST HOURS. PERHAPS IT IS BEST I GO SO THAT YOU MIGHT PONDER YOUR EXPERIENCES.
BUT I LEAVE YOU WITH THIS THOUGHT--


--AS TIME GOES BY, THE BATTLE BETWEEN THE LORDS OF ORDER AND CHAOS WILL BE FOUGHT MORE AND MORE UPON EARTH.
YOU HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF THE CONFLICT, POWER GIRL. I ASK YOUR AID IN WARNING EARTH'S HEROES OF WHAT IS TO COME.
I FIGURED AS MUCH. DON'T WORRY, STRANGER. I'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES.

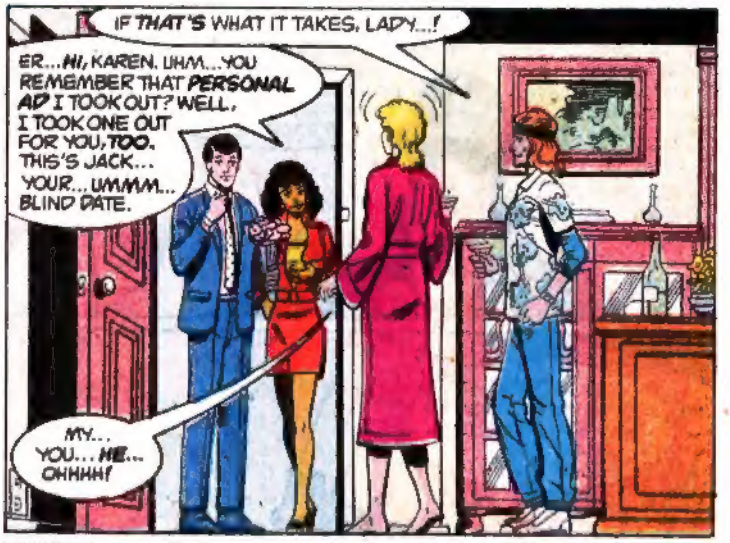

HEY, KAREN! ARE YOU IN THERE? DON'T TRY HIDING... WE CAN HEAR YOU BREATHING!
NOK!
NOK!
NOK!
NOK!
IT'S MY NEIGHBOR! STRANGER, YOU'D BETTER... HUH? HE'S GONE!
UHMMM... HOLD ON A SEC, GARTH! I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!

ABOUT TIME! ANY LONGER AND THE CHAMPAGNE WOULD'VE GONE FLAT!
CHAMPAGNE? AND YOU'RE SMILING! GARTH... WHAT'S GOING ON?
EVERYTHING! MAN, TALK ABOUT TURNAROUNDS...!

OKAY, OKAY. LEMME START FROM THE TOP. FIRST, YOUR LAWYER BUDDY ANDY DRAPER CALLED. SOMETHING ABOUT A BOARD MEETING...
OH MY GOD! THE MEETING! I FORGOT... I MISSED IT!
WELL, THEY HELD IT WITHOUT YOU--

--AND HE KEPT THROWING THE WORD MIRACLE AROUND A WHOLE LOT. SAID THE MOOD CHANGED JUST LIKE THAT AND THEY VOTED IN YOUR FAVOR.
THEY... DID? I MEAN... THEY DID!

THAT'S NOT ALL! LIZ GOT A CALL FROM THE I.R.S. TELLING HER THE NOTICE SHE GOT ABOUT BEING AUDITED WAS A MISTAKE. AND THOSE PAINTINGS OF MINE THAT WERE CAUGHT IN A FLOOD? THEY DRIED OUT GOOD AS NEW! HECK, IT'S LIKE EVERYTHING THAT'D BEEN GOING WRONG SUDDENLY GOT RIGHT.
LIKE MAGIC, HUH?


IF THAT'S WHAT IT TAKES, LADY...!
ER... HI, KAREN. UHM... YOU REMEMBER THAT PERSONAL AD I TOOK OUT? WELL, I TOOK ONE OUT FOR YOU, TOO. THIS'S JACK... YOUR... UMMM... BLIND DATE.
MY... YOU... HE... OHHHH!

THE CURSE STRIKES AGAIN?
SIGH! NO... THIS'S MORE LIKE YOUR TYPICAL, EVERYDAY STUFF.
ISN'T IT WONDERFUL...?
The End